

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF MANFRED HAUERS ET AL.

FOR: INFUSION BAG, IN PARTICULAR FOR TEA, LABEL FOR AN INFUSION  
BAG AND METHOD FOR ATTACHING A LABEL TO THE THREAD OF AN  
INFUSION BAG

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Before examining the present application, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete page 8.

Please insert the following section title before the first paragraph on the first page:  
--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert the following section title before the second paragraph on the first  
page:  
--DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL 914109002 US  
Date of deposit December 17, 2001  
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being  
mailed with the United States Postal Service "First Class  
Post Office to Addressee" service under 39 U.S.C.  
on the date indicated above and is addressed to  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,  
D.C. 20231

Nidia M. Deras  
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Nidia M. Deras  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Please insert the following section title before the third paragraph on the second page:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please amend the third and fourth paragraphs on page two in clean format as follows:

The invention secures a safe fixation of the label to the thread by a thread connection, which can be established with low technical effort at a high production speed.

More specifically, an infusion bag includes a thread having its free thread end placed on the one side of the label. The thread is pulled in a loop through the label and the loop is introduced from the other side into two slits in the marginal region of the label, such that its closed portion is placed on the one side of the label, the loop being tightened by pulling the thread.

Please insert the following section title before the third paragraph on page three:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please insert the following section title before the eighth paragraph on page four, that is, before the paragraph beginning, "The infusion bag 1 \* \* \*":

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 3 and 4.

Please amend the following claims in "clean" format as follows:

1. (Amended) Infusion bag for tea comprising a thread having a first end, said first end is placed on a first side of a label, said thread is pulled in a loop through said label, said loop is introduced from a second side into two slits at an edge of said label, such that a closed portion of said loop is placed on said first side of said label, and said loop is tightened by pulling said thread.

2. (Amended) Label for an infusion bag comprising a main body portion attached to a thread by a loop, said loop is formed by a free thread end pulled through said main body portion from a first side of said main body portion and introduced in two slits from a second side of said main body portion, such that a closed portion of said loop is placed on said second side of said main body portion and said loop is tightened by pulling said thread.

Please add the following new claims:

5. (Newly Added) The infusion bag of claim 1, further comprising a bag portion coupled to a second end of said thread.

6. (Newly Added) A method for attaching a label to an infusion bag for tea, the method comprising:

placing a free end of a thread on a first side of a label;  
pulling said thread in a loop through said label;  
introducing said loop at a second side of said label at two slits at an edge of said label;  
placing a closed portion of said loop on a first side of said label; and  
tightening said loop.

7. (Newly Added) The method of claim 5, wherein said tightening said loop includes pulling said thread.

8. (Newly Added) The method of claim 5, wherein the method is carried out continuously.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract in clean format as follows:

The present invention relates to a method for attaching a label to the free end of a thread, the other end of which is attached or attachable to an infusion bag, in particular for tea, where thread having its free thread end placed on the one side of label is taken by a needle penetrating label and is pulled in a loop through label, loop is then introduced from the other side in two slits in the marginal region of label, such that its closed portion is again placed on the one side of label and wherein the loop is afterwards tightened by pulling thread. The invention also relates to an infusion bag, in particular for tea, as well as a label for an infusion bag.

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the present amendments that conform the claims to U.S. practice. No new matter is being introduced by this Amendment as antecedent support is set forth in the original specification and in the original claims.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

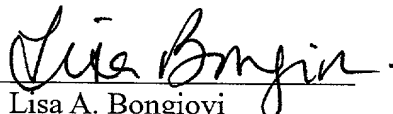
The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Attorneys at the below-listed telephone number regarding this Preliminary Amendment or otherwise regarding the present application.

If there are any charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

MANFRED HAUERS ET AL.

CANTOR COLBURN LLP  
Applicants' Attorneys

By:   
Lisa A. Bongiovi  
Registration No. 48,933  
Customer No. 23413

Date: December 17, 2001  
Address: 55 Griffin Road South, Bloomfield, CT 06002  
Telephone: 860-286-2929

## MARKED UP VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

A marked up version of the third and fourth paragraphs on page two are as follows:

~~In view of this state of the art it is the object of~~ The invention to secure a safe fixation of the label to the thread by a thread connection, which can be established with low technical effort at a high production speed.

~~This object is achieved at~~ More specifically, an infusion bag of the initially mentioned type in that ~~the~~ includes a thread having its free thread end placed on the one side of the label. The thread is pulled in a loop through the label and the loop is introduced from the other side into two slits in the marginal region of the label, such that its closed portion is placed on the one side of the label, the loop being tightened by pulling the thread.

A marked-up version of the Claims is as follows:

1. (Marked up/Amended) Infusion bag ~~for tea comprising (1), in particular for tea,~~ at the head region (6) of which a thread (3) ~~with label (5), which serves for handling and/or information, is attached,~~

**characterized in**

that a thread (3) having its a first free thread end (3e), said first end is placed on the ~~one~~ first side of a label (5) ~~said thread~~ is pulled in a loop (3f) through said label (5), that said loop (3f) is introduced from ~~the other~~ a second side into two slits (5a) in the marginal region at an edge of said label (5), such that ~~its~~ a closed portion of said loop is placed on ~~the one~~ said first side of said label (5), and ~~the~~ said loop is tightened by pulling said thread (3).

2. (Marked up/Amended) Label (5) ~~for an infusion bag (1), in particular for tea,~~ comprising which is attached to a main body portion attached to a thread (3) by a loop (3f), said loop ~~which~~ is formed by a free thread end (3e), pulled through ~~label~~ said main

body portion from (5) ~~one~~ a first side of label ~~said main body portion (5)~~ and introduced in two slits (5a) ~~from the other~~ a second side of label ~~said main body portion (5)~~, such that ~~the~~ a closed portion of said loop (3f) is placed on ~~the other~~ said second side of label ~~said main body portion (5)~~ and ~~the~~ said loop is tightened by pulling said thread (3).

A marked up version of the Abstract is as follows:

The present invention relates to a method for attaching a label (5) to the free end (3e) of a thread (3), the other end of which is attached or attachable to an infusion bag (1), in particular for tea, where thread (3) having its free thread end (3e) placed on the one side of label (5) is taken by a needle penetrating label (5) and is pulled in a loop (3f) through label (5), loop (3f) is then introduced from the other side in two slits (5a) in the marginal region of label (5), such that its closed portion is again placed on the one side of label (5) and wherein the loop is afterwards tightened by pulling thread (3). The invention also relates to an infusion bag (1), in particular for tea, as well as a label (5) for an infusion bag.

(Fig. 1d)

R/WT/h